timise the generation, transmission and distribution capacities that are already existing in view of the widening supply-demand gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Government has seen the newsitem.

(b) No proposal has been received by Government from M/s. Hubbel Ohio Brass company of USA regarding use of Polymer Insulators so far.

(c) Options to optimise the generation, transmission and distribution capacity by way of system improvement schemes covering installation of capacitors and inter-connections of all Regional Grids with HVDC links are already under various stages of implementation and planning.

Proposals for Power Projects in Karnataka

966. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a large number of power projects including mini-hydel have been proposed by the Karnataka Government which are awaiting approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating those awaiting clearance both from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Central Electricity Authority; and

(c) what are the reasons for the abnormal delay in the clearance of these projects proposals and by when Government are likely to take a decision on these?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Details of the proposals for new power projects received from Govt. of Karnataka are as follows:—

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Present Status
1	2	3
1	Raichur TPS St.III (1x500 MW) Unit-V	Clearances from Min. of Environment and Forest & Central Water Commission are awaited. KPCL has to submit Revised Cost Estimates.
2	Mysore TPS (1x500 MW)	Schemes have been returned to KPCL as certain basic inputes/ clearances including clearance from Min. of Environment & Forest are yet to be tied-up by project-Authorities.
3	Hospet TPS (1x500 MW)	
4	Sarapadi Hydro Electric Scheme (3×30 MW)	The scheme has been cleared by Central Electricity Authority and is awaiting investment sanction by the Planning Commission. The scheme has not been cleared by Ministry of Environment and Forest from environmental angle.

1	2	3
5	Mangalore Thermal Power Project (6x167 MW) =1002 MW	The project is to be executed in the private sector. Various linkages are to be tied up.
Small Hydro Projects		
1	Dhupeal Small Hydro Project (SHP) (2000 KW)	The project has been referred by the Karnataka Government to Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for accord of approval. The project is to be executed in private sector and is submitted for consideration.
2	Vrishabhavati SHP Site 'A' (100 KW)	The projects have been referred by the Govt. of Karnataka to the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for appraisal for execution in the private sector.
3	Vrishbhavati SHP Site 'B' (50 KW)	

According of techno-economic clearance of power schemes is dependent upon availability of various inputs, certain statutory and other clearances from other Ministries/agencies and timely submission of requisite replies/ clarifications from the project authorities.

Loans from Power Finance Corporation to Private Sector

967. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Power Finance Corporation propose to extend loans and finances to the private sector in setting up power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to formulate a scheme to encourage medium and small entrepreneurs to implement mini-hydel projects; and

(d) if so, the details of action initiated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) Establishment of small and mini-hydel projects by Entrepreneurs is being encouraged through grant of fiscal concessions, capital subsidy and soft loan assistance through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA).

Power Shortage in Andhra Pradesh

968. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimate of power shortage in Andhra Pradesh by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan;

(b) how will this shortage be met; and

(c) the details of proposals of Andhra Pradesh Government for power projects which are pending for clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) CEA estimates an energy shortage of 30% in the terminal year current plan.

(b) In order to mitigate the power shortage in the State of Andhra Pradesh